

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 JIDDA 02352 271453Z

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 EB-08 OMB-01

COME-00 ACDA-07 SSM-03 AID-05 /113 W

-----271510Z 001792 /45

R 271407Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7796

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SANA

USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 2352

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, FT, FR, SA

SUBJ: DELEGATION FROM FTAI VISITS SAUDI ARABIA

REF: (A) JIDDA 2088, (B) STATE 62932, (C) STATE 66997

1. SAUDI PRESS MARCH 27 REPORTS THAT A DELEGATION OF DJIBOUTI LEADERS WHO WERE AT THE CONFERENCE IN PARIS ON THE FUTURE OF THE FTAI VISITED THE KINGDOM MARCH 24-25. ONLY NAMES MENTIONED IN THE PRESS WERE AHMED DINI, SPOKESMAN OF THE POPULAR LEAGUE, AND ABDULLAH ARDIA OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR THE LIBERATION OF THE SOMALI COAST.

2. THE DELEGATION MET WITH FONMIN PRINCE SAUD WHO, ACCORDING TO DINI, "WELCOMED US WITH UNDERSTANDING OF OUR CAUSE AND OUR AMBITIONS... WE PRESENTED THE NEEDS
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 JIDDA 02352 271453Z

OF OUR TERRITORY AND THE KINGDOM RESPONDED FAVORABLY... (PRINCE SAUD'S) VIEWS WERE IDENTICAL WITH OURS CONCERNING POLITICAL STABILITY IN THE AREA."

3. ABDULLAH ARDIA WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT THE TALKS DEALT WITH A REVIEW OF THE DISCUSSIONS AT THE PARIS MEETING AND WITH THE ISSUE OF RED SEA SECURITY "IN VIEW OF ITS LOCAL

AND INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE." ON THIS POINT " PRINCE SAUD EXPLAINED HIS IDEAS WHICH WERE IDENTICAL WITH OUR OWN."

4. ARDIA ALSO ENGAGED IN A BIT OF DISINGENUOUS FLATTERY OF HIS HOSTS SAYING THAT FRANCE HAD BEEN DRAGGING ITS HEELS ON THE QUESTION OF A DATE FOR INDEPENDENCE AND WAS NOT SHOULDERING ITS COMMITMENTS. THIS CHANGED WITH THE VISIT OF PRESIDENT GISCARD TO RIYADH AFTER WHICH A DATE FOR INDEPENDENCE WAS ANNOUNCED AND "ALL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS, INCLUDING THOSE OUTSIDE THE TERRITORY" WERE INVITED TO PARIS FOR TALKS. "WE BELIEVE" SAID ARDIA, "THIS CAME ABOUT AS AS RESULT OF THE STAND ADOPTED BY SAUDI ARABIA LED BY KING KHALID AND CROWN PRINCE FAHD." ARDIA CONCLUDED "WE HAVE EXPLAINED THE KINGDOM'S ROLE EVERYWHERE BECAUSE ITS AID HAS BEEN GREATER THAN THAT EXTENDED BY ANY OTHER COUNTRY."

5. COMMENT: THE SAUDIS RESPOND TO FLATTERY AS WELL AS ANY OTHERS, BUT THEY HAVE THEIR OWN REASONS FOR BEING HELPFUL TO DJIBOUTI INDEPENDENCE GROUPS. WE ASSUME THEY ARE THE SAME PEOPLE THE FRENCH NOW FAVOR AND HAVE RECOMMENDED TO THE SAUDIS. IT APPEARS THE FRENCH MAY BE IN THE PROCESS OF DEFTLY SHIFTING A CHUNK OF THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO AN INDEPENDENT DJIBOUTI ONTO SAUDI SHOULDERS. THE SAUDIS SEEM PREPARED TO ACCEPT THE BURDEN.

6. WE EXPECT TO BE EXPLORING THIS SUBJECT WITH THE SAUDIS IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS. IN THIS CONNECTION, IT WOULD BE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 JIDDA 02352 271453Z

USEFUL IF WE COULD TELL THE SAUDIS THAT WE HAVE NAMED OUR CONSUL GENERAL TO DJIBOUTI AND HOPE TO HAVE HIM IN PLACE BEFORE THE END OF APRIL. IT MIGHT SPUR THE SAUDIS TO GREATER EFFORTS TO GET THEIR OWN MAN IN PLACE QUICKLY. IN THIS CONNECTION, WE THINK IT WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA IF WALTER CLARKE COULD PASS BY JIDDA, IF ONLY BRIEFLY, ON HIS WAY TO DJIBOUTI.
PORTER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: INDEPENDENCE, LIBERATION FRONTS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, SELFDETERMINATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770105-0383
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From: JIDDA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Litigation History:
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vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/69f539b1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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